United Nations A/C.6/73/L.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 September 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Sixth Committee

Organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

1. In order to assist the Sixth Committee in the organization of its work, the Secretariat considers it appropriate, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963 and 32/71 of 9 December 1977 and of rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to draw the attention of the Committee to the information below.

Items allocated to the Sixth Committee

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, held on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly allocated 27 items to the Sixth Committee. The list of those items, organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, is contained in a note by the Secretariat on the allocation of agenda items to the Sixth Committee, which has been circulated as a document of the Committee (A/C.6/73/1).

Documentation relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee

3. The table below lists the documents of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee. It includes references to the reports of commissions or committees and the reports that are to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions or decisions of the Assembly at preceding sessions, as well as to documents circulated under the agenda items allocated to the Committee,[1] in accordance with requests of Member States. The attention of delegates is also drawn to the website of the Committee.[2]

[1] The figure in brackets after the title of each item indicates its number on the agenda of the seventy-third session. The list of documents is based on information available as at 24 September 2018.

[2] http://www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/index.shtml

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	Projected date of issuance
Election of the officers of the Main Committees [5]	No advance documentation
Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission [79]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/128)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/129)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/155)	Issued
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-first session [80]	
Report of the Commission (A/73/17)	Issued
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [81]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/__)	Mid-October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session [82]	
Report of the Commission (A/73/10)	Issued
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts [83]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/277)	Issued
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives [84]	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/189)	
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [85]	
Report of the Special Committee (A/73/33)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* (A/73/190)	Issued
The rule of law at the national and international levels [86]	
Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities (A/73/253)	Issued
The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction [87]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/123 and A/73/123/Add.1)	Issued
Protection of persons in the event of disasters [90]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/229)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework [91]	
Letter dated 7 June 2018 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Italy and Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/73/141)	Issued
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [111]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/125)	Issued
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [123]	
(adoption of a provisional programme of work for the seventy-fourth session) (resolution 58/316)	No advance documentation
Programme planning [137]	
General Assembly resolutions 58/269, 62/224, 63/247, 64/229, 65/244, 66/8, 66/294, 67/236, 69/17, 70/8, 71/6 and 72/9	Issued
Administration of justice at the United Nations [147]	
Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services (A/73/167)	Issued
Report of the Internal Justice Council on appointment of judges of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal and of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal (A/73/203)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/73/217 and A/73/217/Add.1)	Issued
Report of the Internal Justice Council (A/73/218)	Issued
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [167]	
Report of the Committee (A/73/26)	Late October
Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly [169]	
Letter dated 2 May 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/141) (see decisions 66/527, 67/525, 68/528, 69/527, 70/523, 71/524 and 72/523)	Issued
Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Union in the General Assembly [170]	
Letter dated 30 April 2015 from the Permanent Representatives of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/70/141) (see decisions 70/524, 71/525 and 72/524)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
Observer status for the Community of Democracies in the General Assembly [171]	
Letter dated 10 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/70/142) (see decisions 70/525, 71/526 and 72/525)	Issued
Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly [172]	
Note verbale dated 11 August 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/72/194) (see decision 72/526)	Issued
Observer status for the Global Environment Facility in the General Assembly [173]	
Note verbale dated 12 August 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/72/195) (see decision 72/527)	Issued
Observer status for the New Development Bank in the General Assembly [174]	
Letter dated 2 July 2018 from the Permanent Representatives of Brazil, China, India, the Russian Federation and South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/73/142)	Issued
Observer status for the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea in the General Assembly [175]	
Letter dated 6 July 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/73/145)	Issued
Observer status for the European Public Law Organization in the General Assembly [176]	
Letter dated 17 August 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/73/191)	Issued
Observer status for the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in the General Assembly [177]	
Letter dated 17 August 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/73/194)	Issued
Observer status for International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries in the General Assembly [178]	Issued
Letter dated 23 August 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/73/231)	

Date for concluding the work of the Committee, order and approximate dates of consideration of items

4. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that:

> Each Main Committee, taking into account the closing date for the session fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete the consideration of the items referred to it. It shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item.

5. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/316 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Sixth Committee, the Assembly, at its 67th plenary meeting, held on 7 December 2017, adopted decision 72/528 containing the provisional programme of work of the Committee for the seventy-third session of the Assembly.

6. The General Assembly, at its 3rd plenary meeting, held on 21 September 2018, upon the recommendation of the General Committee (A/73/250, para. 22), fixed the target date of 13 November 2018 for the completion of the work of the Sixth Committee. The Bureau of the Committee has considered the provisional programme of work as contained in decision 72/528 and has taken into account the allocation of new items to the Committee by the Assembly and the anticipated workload at the present session.

	Approximate dates of consideration
Sixth Committee (organization of work)	3 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [111]	3 to 4 October
Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework [91]	5 October
Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission [79]	5 October
The rule of law at the national and international levels [86]	8 and 9 October
The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction [87]	9 October
Administration of justice at the United Nations [147]	10 October
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [85]	12 October
Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly [169]	12 October
Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Union in the General Assembly [170]	12 October
Observer status for the Community of Democracies in the General Assembly [171]	12 October
Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly [172]	12 October

	Approximate dates of consideration
Observer status for the Global Environment Facility in the General Assembly [173]	12 October
Observer status for the New Development Bank in the General Assembly [174]	12 October
Observer status for the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea in the General Assembly [175]	12 October
Observer status for the European Public Law Organization in the General Assembly [176]	12 October
Observer status for the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in the General Assembly [177]	12 October
Observer status for the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries in the General Assembly [178]	12 October
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-first session [80]	15 October
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts [83]	15 and 16 October
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives [84]	16 October
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [81]	19 October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session [82]	22 to 26 October, 30 and 31 October
Protection of persons in the event of disasters [90]	1 November
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [167]	2 November
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [123]	6 November
Programme planning [137]	13 November
Election of the officers of the Main Committees [5]	13 November
In reserve	12 and 18 October

Establishment of working groups and holding of consultations

7. Concerning agenda item 79, entitled "Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission", the General Assembly, by its resolution 72/112, reiterated its decision that the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspects, should be continued during its seventy-third session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, and, for that purpose, invited further comments from Member States on that report, including on the question of future action. In that light, two meetings, to be held on 10 and 15 October, have been suggested for that purpose.

8. Regarding agenda item 87, entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction", the General Assembly, by its resolution 72/120, decided that the Sixth Committee should continue its consideration of the item, without prejudice to the consideration of the topic and related issues in other forums of the United Nations, and for that purpose decided to establish, at its seventy-third session, a working group of the Sixth Committee to continue to undertake a thorough discussion of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction. In that regard, two meetings, to be held on 11 and 17 October, have been suggested for that purpose.

9. Concerning agenda item 111, entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", the General Assembly, by its resolution 72/123, decided to recommend that the Sixth Committee, at the seventy-third session of the Assembly, establish a working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism as well as discussions on the item included in its agenda by Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations. In that light, three meetings, to be held on 16, 19 and 30 October, have been suggested for that purpose.

10. The consideration of the reports of the working groups in plenary is scheduled for 5 November. It has also been suggested to hold informal consultations regarding agenda item 147, entitled "Administration of justice at the United Nations", on 10 October.

11. In view of the limited conference services available to the Sixth Committee (see para. 12 below), any meetings for the working groups or for informal consultations will have to be accommodated within the overall meetings allocated to the Committee.

Deadline for the submission of draft resolutions with financial implications

12. Pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, "no resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General". It is therefore imperative that the Sixth Committee allow sufficient time for the preparation of estimates of expenditure by the Secretariat and for their consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee. Since 13 November has been fixed as the concluding date for the work of the Sixth Committee (see para. 6 above), 30 October would have to be considered the mandatory deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of draft resolutions with financial implications, except for draft resolutions concerning items to be considered after that date. When submitting such proposals, delegations may also wish to bear in mind that, in most cases, a period of more than 48 hours is required for the Secretary-General to review the programme budget implications of proposals.

Conference resources available

13. The available conference facilities will, in principle, enable the Committee to hold no more than 10 plenary meetings per week. Morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 to 6 p.m.

14. In order to avoid difficulties in the organization of services for the meetings of regional groups of the Committee, it is suggested that all requests for such meetings be channelled to the Meetings Management Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management through the Secretary of the Committee.